

Spring Mill State Park

All programs are free unless otherwise noted.

Programs at all our state parks and reservoirs: <http://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/interpretiveservices/programs/schedule/>

September 2006

Nature Center Hours: Daily 10:00am-5:00pm (EDT)	Property Mgr: Mark Young Asst. Property Mgr.: Jon Winne
Pioneer Village Hours: 9:00am-5:00pm (EDT) Daily April thru October 29 Weekends thru November	Interpretive Naturalists: Jill Vance, and Scott Stowers Pioneer Village Staff: Housekeeper, Weaver, Leatherworker, Quilter, Blacksmith, Gardener, Miller, and Woodworker
Twin Caves Hours: 9:00am-5:00pm (EDT) Daily May 27 thru Labor Day Weekends thru October	Twin Caves Staff: Cecil East, Brad Hinds, Roy McIver, Erik Bare, and Mark Shaber
Grissom Memorial Hours: Daily 8:30am-4:00pm (EDT)	Program Specialist: Dave Williams

Public programs are designed for individuals and families.

If you will be bringing an organized group, you can contact the Nature Center in advance and schedule a private program just for your group (\$1/person charge). (812) 849-4129

NOTICE: Trail 5 is currently closed for repairs.

HP-HP Healthy Parks – Healthy People

Get “INShape” with us, and discover what it takes to keep a state park healthy.



Look for our hikes and strolls!

Watch for the roving naturalist!



Friday, September 1

Start submitting your entries today to the 6th Annual Spring Mill Amateur Photography Contest! Entry forms available at the Grissom Memorial, Spring Mill Inn, and Nature Center.

Saturday, September 2

ARCHAEOLOGY WEEKEND

10am-4pm Archaeology Roadshow – Bring your artifacts in for examination and identification by an expert. [*No value appraisals* will be conducted - all archaeological artifacts are priceless!] Grissom Memorial.



11:00am Archaeology of Spring Mill and the Village - The restoration of the three-story limestone mill, water wheel, and other structures sealed the early fate of Spring Mill and its associated village as a living history tourist site; and it also may have inadvertently preserved Spring Mill as an important archaeological site. Professional archaeologists will share the archaeology and history of Spring Mill State Park and its Pioneer Village. Pioneer Village, Meeting House (45-60 min).

12:00pm Archaeological Tour of Spring Mill – Join professional archaeologists on an archaeological tour of Spring Mill State Park and the Pioneer Village! The tour will include stops at the Mill, upper and lower residences, distillery, tavern, post office and mercantile buildings, Hamer Cemetery, CCC camp area, and other points of interest. *Note: In the interest of time, we will be driving to reach some of the sites.* Meet at the Pioneer Village, Meeting House (1½ hr).




SATURDAY PROGRAMS CONTINUED
ON THE NEXT PAGE!

Saturday, September 2 CONTINUED...



- 1:00pm** **Grass Mat Making** – Native Americans utilized plant materials for many different purposes, including creating mats out of native grasses. During this program, we'll make a small version of a grass mat using a simple technique. Nature Center, back patio (45 min).
- 2:00pm**  **Native Americans and Plants** – Discover some of the many uses that Native Americans had for plants – from food, to shelter, to clothing! Meet in front of Sycamore Shelter (1 hr).
- 3-5pm**  **Atlatl Throwing** – Hunting became a lot more efficient with the invention of the atlatl by Native Americans. Drop in to see some examples of this throwing stick and find out how far you can hurl a spear! Field next to Sycamore Shelter.
- 8:00pm** **Before the Pioneers...** Native Americans lived in what is now Spring Mill State Park. Discover which groups used this land and what signs they left behind. Campground Amphitheatre, next to Site #108 (30 min).

Also today in the Village... **Sawmill Demonstrations** at 11:30am and 2:30pm.

Sunday, September 3 ARCHAEOLOGY WEEKEND



- 11:00am** **Archaeology of Spring Mill and the Village** - The restoration of the three-story limestone mill, water wheel, and other structures sealed the early fate of Spring Mill and its associated village as a living history tourist site; and it also may have inadvertently preserved Spring Mill as an important archaeological site. Professional archaeologists will share the archaeology and history of Spring Mill State Park and its Pioneer Village. Pioneer Village, Meeting House (45-60 min).
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Sunday, September 3 CONTINUED...

- 1-3pm**  **Flint Knapping Demonstration** – Drop in to see how pieces of rock are shaped into sharp tools like knives and arrow points. Nature Center, front patio.
- 1:30pm**  **Simple Coiled Baskets** – Native Americans and pioneers used baskets to store all sorts of things! We'll teach you how to make a simple version of a coiled basket using recycled materials. Great for kids! Nature Center, back patio (45 min).
- 3:30pm** **Signs of the Past** – Learn how to “read” the landscape (and use historical records) to locate ruins and other signs of prior activity (focus is on sites from 1800 to 1940). *Following the main program, there will be an optional field trip to check out one of the “hidden” sites in Spring Mill State Park.* Nature Center, Program Room (1 hr).

Also today in the Village... **Sawmill Demonstrations** at 11:30am and 2:30pm.

Monday, September 4 ARCHAEOLOGY WEEKEND

- 11:00am**  **The Stagecoach Trail** – Enter Spring Mill Village along the same route that the stagecoach line traveled during the early 1800s and learn more about this early form of transportation. *Hike ends in the Pioneer Village; take some time to explore and then walk back on your own.* Meet at Oak Ridge Shelter parking lot (20 min).
- 12-2pm**  **Pieces of the Past** – Check out a few artifacts that have been unearthed from Native American and pioneer days. Watch for the roving naturalist in the Gristmill.

Tuesday, September 5 – Friday, September 8


September 8th at 4pm is the deadline for submitting entries to the **6th Annual Spring Mill Amateur Photography Contest!**
More information available at the Nature Center (812-849-4129).

Saturday, September 9

Healthy Parks, Healthy People

& AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST



10am-4pm **Amateur Photography Contest** – Drop in to view the entries on display for our 6th Annual Spring Mill Amateur Photography Contest and vote for the “People’s Choice” Award. Spring Mill Inn.


10:00am  **INShape Fitness Walk** – Indiana’s State Parks and Reservoirs are a great place to exercise! Join us for a 2.5 mile walk (route is paved) from the Nature Center, to the Pioneer Village, and back. Meet at the Nature Center, front patio (1hr 15min). **HP-HP**

11:30am **Food for the Trail** – No need to go hungry when you’re out on the trail! We’ll share the best energy foods to take along on a hike, sample several different kinds of trail mix, and give you recipes for other healthy snacks. Nature Center, Program Room (30 min). **HP-HP**


1:30pm **Leave No Trace!** – Join Bill Houk, a Leave No Trace Master Educator, for a hands-on workshop based on seven principles that every outdoor-lover should know! Leave No Trace is an international program designed to train those who enjoy the outdoors to reduce and prevent their impact on the natural world. Nature Center, Program Room (1 hr). **HP-HP**

3:00pm **Alien Invaders** – Periwinkle, honeysuckle, multiflora rose and other plants are invading the forests of Spring Mill! Learn how to identify common invasives and learn how you can help us fight the battle against them! Meet at Pioneer Village, Concession Stand (30 min). **HP-HP**


5:00pm   **Mountain Bike “Hike”** – Experience Spring Mill’s new mountain bike trail on this group ride, lead by a park naturalist! During periodic stops along the trail, you’ll learn about the geology behind the trail’s terrain (and get a chance to rest!). Beginning riders welcome! *Bring your own bike or rent one from us (Special rental rate for “hike” participants – only \$2! Rental includes helmet).* Meet at the Mountain Bike Rental (Saddle Barn) (1 hr). **HP-HP**

7-8pm  **Raccoons on the Run** –Have masked bandits been after your dinner? Find out why raccoons present a problem in the campground and what you can do improve the situation. Watch for the roving naturalist in the campground. **HP-HP**

Sunday, September 10

11:00am  **Everyday Monsters** – They’re everywhere... but what do we really know about them? Discover the amazing (and somewhat disgusting) world of the housefly. Nature Center, Back Patio (30 min).

11:30am **Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (30 min).

1:00pm  **Be a Beaver Builder** – Learn the see the world from a beaver’s perspective! You’ll learn what beavers look for in a habitat and how they turn it into a home. Meet at Nature Center, Front Patio (45 min).

1:30pm **Jute Bracelets** – Learn a simple braid and create a bracelet or bookmark out of a plant material known as “jute.” Pioneer Village, Leatherworker’s Shop (30 min).

2:30pm **Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (30 min).



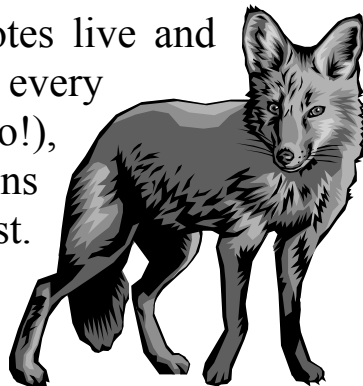
**Monday, September 11 –
Friday, September 15**

*Climb up on some hill at
sunrise. Everybody needs
perspective once in a while,
and you'll find it there.*

~Robb Sagendorph

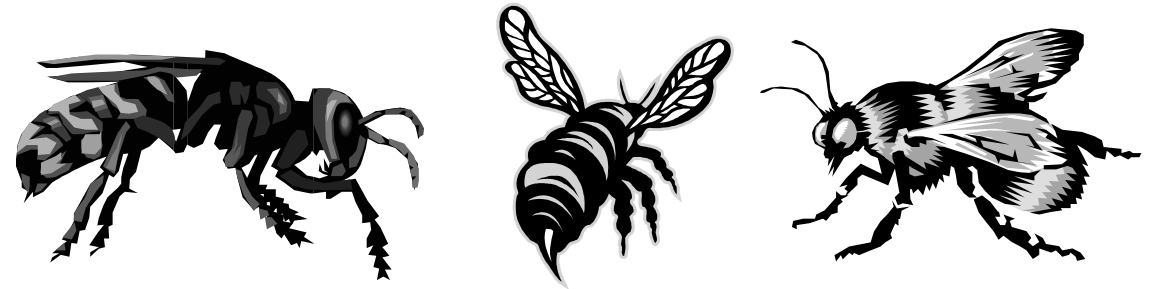
Saturday, September 16

- 11:30am Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (30 min).
- 11:30am Spin, Span, Spun** – Watch as a pioneer reenactor demonstrates how to spin wool on the wheel just like it was done in the 1800s. Pioneer Village, Upper Residence (30 min).
- 1:30pm Life in a Log** – Search for insects, salamanders, and other critters that call dead wood “home”. As we roll over logs together, we’ll also explore the process that turns a piece of wood back into dirt. Meet at Nature Center, Back Patio (30 min).
- 2:30pm Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (30 min).
- 2:30pm Hairpin Lace Demonstration and Workshop** – Learn how to make a unique type of decorative edging called hairpin lace. The first six people who arrive for the program will also be able to get hands-on instruction. Pioneer Village, Weaver’s Shop (Summer Kitchen) (30 min).
- 5:00pm Get FIRED Up!** – Learn the secrets to building a great campfire and then head back to your campsite to start one up for dinner. You’ll get tips on types of wood to use, kindling materials, and different building “styles” for different uses. Campground Amphitheatre (30 min).
- 8:00pm Coyote Howl** – Discover how coyotes live and have learned to survive in practically every habitat (even in downtown Chicago!), why efforts to reduce their populations fail, and how to peacefully coexist. Campground Amphitheater (30 min).



Sunday, September 17

- 10:30am Getting to Know Trees** – Learn how to identify the common trees of Spring Mill State Park with “dead giveaway” signs and a simple dichotomous key. Meet in front of the Grissom Memorial (45 min).
- 11:30am Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (30 min).
- 1:00pm Don’t Sting Me!** – Explore the world of bees, hornets, wasps, and other stinging insects. Discover how they live, how to avoid them, and what to do if you get stung. Nature Center, Back Patio (30 min).
- 2:30pm Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (30 min).




Monday, September 18 – Friday, September 22

That we find a crystal or a poppy beautiful means that we are less alone, that we are more deeply inserted into existence than the course of a single life would lead us to believe. ~John Berger, The Sense of Sight, 1980




Saturday, September 23

Sawmill Demonstrations in the Pioneer Village at 11:30am and 2:30pm.


4-9pm  **Tri-Kappa Pioneer Village Candlelight Tour** – Spring Mill Village will come to life as Tri Kappa members, their friends and families, and the park staff open all the buildings for their annual tour in conjunction with Persimmon Festival in Mitchell, IN. Portrayals of pioneer life and music from Bluegrass to Gospel will fill the air . Tri Kappa will also host a concession area at the Carriage House, selling hotdogs, cider, caramel corn and other goodies.


Kappa Kappa Kappa, Inc. has hosted the candlelight tour for nearly 40 years. All the entertainment groups donate their time and talents to this worthy cause. Proceeds from the project are used for many local community projects and school scholarships. A portion of the proceeds are used to help support Riley Hospital and Ronald McDonald House.

Sunday, September 24

11:00am  **Candlelight Cave Tour** – See Donaldson Cave as the early pioneers did – by candlelight! *Wear good shoes and bring a flashlight (you’ll need one when entering/exiting the cave).* Meet in the Donaldson Picnic Area parking lot (1 hr).

11:30am **Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (30 min).

12-1pm  **Insect Defense!** – Discover some of the different strategies that insects employ to protect themselves against predators and other threats. Watch for the roving naturalist along the sidewalk near the Pioneer Village.

1:00pm  **FALL in Love with the Pioneer Garden** – Find out what’s happening in our pioneer garden as the plants finish up the blooming season and prepare for colder times. Meet in the Pioneer Garden (30 min).

2:30pm **Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (30 min).

Monday, September 25 – Friday, September 29

If the sight of the blue skies fills you with joy,
if a blade of grass springing up in the fields has power to move you,
if the simple things of nature have a message that you understand,
rejoice, for your soul is alive. ~Eleonora Duse

Saturday, September 30


11:30am **Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (30 min).

1:00pm **A Snake’s Story** – Where do snakes go when the air turns chilly? You’ll find out how snakes “weather” the changing seasons while meeting a few of our resident reptiles. Nature Center, Program Room (30 min).

2:30pm **Sawmill Demonstration** - See how lumber was cut in the 1800s using the power of water. Pioneer Village, Grist Mill (30 min).

3:00pm **Which Wood?** – Discover which types of wood were used (or were most desirable) for different pioneer-era projects. Pioneer Village, Woodshop (30 min).

4:00pm **Nature’s Cleanup Crew** – Explore the fascinating life of vultures (Spring Mill has two kinds!) and learn why you should admire these unique birds. Nature Center, Back Patio (30 min).

7:45pm  **One Night in the Forest...** Find out what it takes to survive in the forest at night as we listen and look for nocturnal animals. Meet in front of the Grissom Memorial (1 hr).

Coming Up in October...

October 6: Hunter’s Full Moon Hike

October 7-8: Autumn Harvest Days

October 14-15: Scarecrow Weekend

October 21-22: Fall Family Weekend